

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
March 14, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:34 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** Captain Jennifer Clanton – Salvation Army

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** All members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**

President Hardaway congratulated the Merrillville High School Boys Basketball team for winning Regionals.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated March 14, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2017. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Minchuk had no report.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mrs. Barron made a motion to accept Meyers Glaros Group as the Town of Merrillville's third party insurance consultants. The motion was seconded by Mr. Spann. Some discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Ms. LaMarca referred to Jan Orlich for a report. Ms. Orlich mentioned that the senior luncheons have started again and held the second Friday of each month. Ms. Orlich provided an update for the upcoming summer events and programs. Ms. Orlich said are in the process of completing the 2017 Spring/Summer Park brochure. Ms. Orlich said the Fourth of July Parade applications are currently being mailed to all the local businesses within Merrillville.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report. Mr. Lake spoke about the multiple major projects under design and provided the latest Stormwater updates.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Ms. LaMarca said there will be a Parade meeting on March 28, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit commented on an upcoming Resolution designating an economic revitalization area (ERA). He also said he will schedule a meeting to discuss another pending tax abatement petition.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

President Hardaway attended a Land Bank meeting and provided an overview of the information. Discussion followed regarding the details involved with a Land Bank. President Hardaway accepted the appointment of spokesperson for the Land Bank of Lake County.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-02:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville Indiana, providing that the Zoning Ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing the established C-3, Highway Commercial Zoning District to a Planned Unit Development Classification. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 17-03:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the various Stormwater Funds for the year 2017 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 17-04:** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana rescinding Resolution 15-03 approved on January 13, 2015 and rescinding its January 13, 2015 approval of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the South Shore Railroad West Lake Corridor Project and rescinding its January 13, 2015 approval of a pledged revenues exhibit pledging twenty-two percent (22%) of the Town's annual distribution of county economic development income tax funds to the project and reapproving the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the South Shore Railroad West Lake Corridor Project and approving a pledged revenues exhibit pledging eight percent (8%) of the Town's annual distribution of county economic development income tax funds to the project effective March 1, 2017. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote with 1 abstention.

**Res. 17-08:** Declaratory Resolution of Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, designating an economic revitalization area. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. Discussion followed. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A discussion took place regarding Resolution 17-04. Mrs. Barron made a motion to add Resolution 17-04 to the Town Council Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Environmental Resource Committee meeting, March 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Plan Commission meeting, March 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Abandoned Blighted Properties Committee meeting, March 23, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

Town Council meeting, March 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac.

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**Richard Hardaway, President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**